Deep Sea Fishing as an Industry

*415. SHRIMATI KAMLA SINHA: Will the Minister of FOOD PROCESSING INDUSTRIES be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government propose to treat deep sea fishing as a separate industry; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF FOOD PROCESSING INDUSTRIES (SHRI GIRIDHAR GOMANGO): (a) No, Sir; there is no such proposal.

(b) Does not arise.

Reduction in prices of groundnut oil

*416. SHRI SOM PAL:
SHRI CHIMANBHAI MEHTA:

Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that voluntary agreement between Central and State Government and producers for reduction of groundnut oil prices by Rs. five in Gujarat has been violated;

(b) whether edible oil in Gujarat has disappeared after the agreement;

(c) whether the Department has received any complaints that NDDB is responsible for the hike in proundnut oil prices;

(d) whether Government have looked in. to the functioning of the NDDB; and

(e) what is the amount of advance given by R.B.I. to NDDB to purchase groundnuts?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL SUPPLIES AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI KAMALUDDIN AHMED): (a) The reports received so far do not indicate that oil trade of Gujarat have gone back on their word to sell groundnut oil in loose at retail level for Rs. 38|- per kg.

(b) No, Sir. However, after the initial period of confusion in Trade about it, the oil has been sold by most leading firms as per their promise. Reports though suggest that arrival of groundnut oil in principal cities of Gujarat has been less than usual.

(c) Recently no such written complaint has been received.

(d) The NDDB has full functional autonomy in respect of Market Intervention Operation for a period of five years w.e.f. April, 1989.

(e) The RBI has authorised a need-based credit limit to NDDB for purchase of edible oils/oilseeds under MIO. The limits are authorised to a consortium of Banks and are revised from time to time taking into account the requirements of NDDB.

Import Prce of Drugs

*417. SHRIMATI SATYA BAHIN:
SHRI MOHD. KHALEELUR RAHMAN:

Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to refer to the answer to Unstarred Question 650 given in the Rajya Sabha on 12th September, 1991 and state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the price of a number of drugs being imported by multinational Drug Companies is three to four times higher than the prices at which other companies are importing;

(b) whether Government have come across such instances;

(c) if so, the names of drugs/their import prices and the prices at which other Companies are importing;

(d) whether it is also a fact that those Companies are importing finished medicines from their principals and their associates at much higher prices and selling on stock and sale basis: and

(e) what are the names of finished medicines imported by each, source of import and the price at which each is being told?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS (SHRI CHINTA MOHAN): (Correct number of the earlier question is presumed to be 1650 replied on 12-9-91 and not 650.)

(a), (b) and (c) Company-wise imports of individual drugs and formulations, and their prices are not being monitored.

(b) and (c) To the extent information is available, no such instance has come to the notice of the Government recently.

Nuclear Power Projects at Kudankulam in Tamil Nadu

*418. SHRI S. MADHAVAN: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that he nuclear power project at Kudankulam in Tamil Nadu hsa been held up because of the delay in finalising the technology and credit packape offered by Soviet Union, and if so, what are the steps taken to expedite the execuion of this project;

(b) whether it is also a fact that this project is considered not viable without the liberal credit terms offered by the Soviet Union and if so, what steps are being taken to set up this project with indigenous technology; and

(c) what steps are proposed to be taken to Commission the first reactor in the year 1998 as planned by Government?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PERSONNEL, PUBLIC GRIEVANCES AND PENSIONS (SHRIMATI MARGARET ALVA): (a) and (b) After the Inter-Governmental Agreement (IGA) of cooperation signed in November, 1988 by India and the Soviet Union, a number of detailed discussions have taken place between the Soviet and Indian Authorities on the technical and commercial aspects of setting up the 2 x 1000 MWe Soviet nuclear reactors (VVERs) at Kudankulam, Tamil Nadu. The technical details for preparation of Detailed Project Report (DPR) and the maximum basic cost of the project have been agreed upon between the two parties. The terms of credit have already been elaborated in the IGA.

Further decisions on the implementation of the project can only be taken after the preparation of Detailed Project Report (DPR) for which discussions with USSR's authorities are continuing.

(c) In view of what has been stated above, it is premature at this juncture to indicate the date of commissioning of the first reactor.

Committee to monitor software piracy

*419 SHRI SURESH KALMADI: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Government have decided to set up a Committee to monittor action against software piracy; and

(b) if so, what are the terms of reference of the Committee?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PERSONNEL, PUBLIC GRIEVANCES AND PENSIONS (SHRI MATI MARGARET ALVA): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. Software is protected under the Copyright Act, 1957 as amended by Copyright Amendment Act, 1984. A Monitoring Committee has been constituted with the following terms of reference:—

(i) To see that the provisions of the Copyright Act so far as software is concerned are vigorously implemented.

(ii) To take initiative for conducting studies and monitoring the status of use of legitimate software.

(iii) To promote action to meet the needs of users as regards prices of popular software packages.

Increase in the prices of finished medicines

*420. SHRI RAFIQ ALAM:
SHRI MOHD. KHALEELUR RAHMAN:

Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) what are the names of finished medicines whose prices have been increased during October and November, 1991;

(b) when was each price notified by Government;

(c) what is the name of bulk drug on which each of those formulations is based and when was the price increase of each drug notified; and